

ELECTION OF SPECIES:

The Examiner has set forth a Species election requirement as set forth below. The grouping of the claims is also set forth as follows:

Species I Figures 1-5, Claims 1-6, 15-20, 29-32, and 35; and

Species II Figures 6-10, Claims 1, 6-15, 20-30, 33, and 34.

Applicants hereby elect claims defined within Species I. The Examiner required a further election between:

Species (Ia) Figures 5A and 5C, Claims 1-6, 15-20, 29-32, and 35; and

Species (Ib) Figures 5B and 5D, Claims 1-6, 15-20, 29-32, and 35.

Applicants hereby elect claims defined within Species (Ia). The Examiner required a further election between:

Species (Ia1) Figure 5A, Claims 1-3, 6, 15-17, 20, 29-32, and 35; and

Species (Ib1) Figure 5C, Claims 1, 4-6, 15, 18-20, 29, 30, and 35.

Applicants hereby elect claims defined within Species (Ia1).

REMARKS

Applicants hereby provisionally elect claims 1-3, 6, 15-17, 20, 29-32, and 35 heretofore identified within Species (Ia1). However, at least claim 1, for example, is a generic claim to Figures 1-5. Thus, Applicants submit that the election of species within Species I should be a provisional election. Should a generic claim be allowed, all the corresponding species should also be allowed in the application.

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Applicants hereby resubmit newly added claim 35, identical to claim 35, originally submitted in a Response to Species Election Requirement and Preliminary Amendment filed September 17, 2001, for entry into the application.

Should the Examiner deem that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 624-1250.


If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Respectfully submitted,

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